

Chronic Disease Indicators: Indicator Definition



Cancer of the lung and bronchus, mortality

Category:	Cancer
Demographic Group:	All resident persons.
Numerator:	Deaths with International Classification of Diseases (ICD)-10 code C34 (ICD-9 codes 162.2–162.9) as the underlying cause of death among residents during a calendar year.
Denominator:	Midyear resident population for the same calendar year.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual number of deaths. Annual mortality rate — crude and age-adjusted (standardized by the direct method to the year 2000 standard U.S. population based on single years of age from the Census P25-1130 series estimates*) — with 95% confidence interval.
Time Period of Case Definition:	Calendar year.
Background:	During 2001, cancer of the lung was the most common cause of cancer mortality, accounting for approximately 157,400 deaths. Approximately 170,000 new cases are diagnosed annually. In the United States, mortality from lung cancer among women is increasing, but among men, mortality is decreasing. The 5-year relative survival rate is <15%, among one of the lowest of common cancers.
Significance :	Approximately 80%–90% of lung cancer mortality is attributable to cigarette smoking. Lung cancer mortality is also associated with environmental tobacco smoke and certain workplace exposures. A healthy diet might reduce risk.
Limitations of Indicator:	Because lung cancer has a long latency period, years might pass before changes in smoking behavior or patterns of clinical practice affect lung cancer mortality among the general population.
Data Resources:	Death certificate data from vital statistics agencies (numerator) and population estimates from the U.S. Bureau of the Census or suitable alternative (denominator). http://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/
Limitations of Data Resources:	Causes of death and other variables listed on the death certificate might be inaccurate.
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	3-2: Reduce the lung cancer death rate.

SEER - Standard Populations (Millions) for Age-Adjustment <http://seer.cancer.gov/stdpopulations/>